

[54] VIDEO TAPE CASSETTE WITH INTERNAL TAPE ERASING MEANS

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[\*] Notice: The portion of the term of this patent subsequent to Apr. 2, 2004 has been disclaimed.

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[58] Field of Search ..... 360/132, 118, 66; 242/198-199; 206/387

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[57] ABSTRACT

A video tape cassette includes a case or housing formed by upper and lower mating case sections of molded plastics material. A tape supply reel and a take-up reel are supported for rotation within the housing, and a prerecorded magnetic tape is wound onto the supply reel. The leading end portion of the tape extends around guide rollers along a predetermined path to the take-up reel, and a tape erasing element or magnet is supported within the housing to erase the prerecorded material from the tape as it is wound onto the take-up reel and thereby provide for only one time viewing of the prerecorded material. The internal tape erasing element may be made ineffective to provide for original recording of the material on the tape and may be made ineffective after the one time viewing so that the cassette may be reused by the purchaser as a blank cassette. The cassette may also be constructed as a disposable cassette.

15 Claims, 10 Drawing Figures

